
Editorial

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Biographical notes: Yongxian Liu is a Professor at School of Mechanical Engineering and Automation of Northeastern University, China. He received his Master in Mechanical Engineering from Northeast University, China in 1985, and was promoted to a Full Professor in 1996. He has published over 100 papers, five textbooks and one monograph. His main research interests include product design automation theory and application, CAD/CAM technology and integration, manufacturing system and high performance NC machine tools, etc. In 2009, He served as the co-chairman of the e-ENGDET'2009 international conference held in Shenyang, China.

This editorial gives readers a brief introduction to the scope and contents of 11 papers chosen for the special issue on e-engineering and digital enterprise technology in the *International Journal of Internet Manufacturing and Services*. Concerning the topic mentioned above, the purpose to organise this special issue is to let readers understand the current progresses in the aspects of both research and applications.

In the past decade, digital manufacturing and enterprise technologies gave industries a huge impact. They have not only provided the industries with new methods, tools and digitalised products in the life-cycle of products, but also are changing people's thinking styles and working environments. Digital manufacturing and enterprise technologies have brought remarkable and fundamental progresses to industries.

In order to exchange the latest ideas, methodologies, enabling technologies, tools and integrated systems for researchers and engineers in this area, the series International Conference on E-Engineering and Digital Enterprise Technology has been originated and held seven times in Xi'an (2001), Beijing (2002), Hangzhou (2003), Leeds (2004), Guiyang (2006), Harbin (2007), and Shenyang (2009) respectively. Each conference of this series attracted hundreds of scholars, researchers, engineers and managers from all over the world, and contributed greatly to research institutions and industrial organisations. Now this series conference has become one of the most important international meetings that brings and links academicians and researchers from research institutions together with engineers and managers from industries to share the new experience and new achievements in the area of digital manufacturing and enterprise technologies.

The papers in this issue are oriented from working papers presented in the e-ENGDET'2009. As a post-conference publication, the program committee selects nine papers after exact extension from their original working papers in the conference. In addition, two papers are from normal submission. Hopefully it is useful for us to investigate well the current state-of-the-art research progresses and potential industrial applications on the area mentioned above.